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31 May 1956

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**EAST GERMANY/VP-SSE Preparations for Atomic Warfare**

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1. The VP-SSE shipbuilding department had planned to have one compartment aboard the **PORELLA**-class vessels (see ref a) radiation proof and to provide the **KRAKE**-class (see ref a) with some decontaminating equipment. Although this represented the total anti-radiation effort for these vessels, the VP-SSE referred to them as "ATOMSICHER" - "Atom-proof."

a. **PORELLA**-class.

The engine compartment is to be built "Radiation proof". However, as the amount of air needed by the 2,500-HP diesels did not allow complete sealing of the engine compartment, the plan was dropped.

b. **KRAKE**-class.

A few rooms aboard were to be constructed radiation-proof and to be equipped with some kind of a sprinkler-system for decontamination, with air-locks at the entrances, and with other equipment. The first **KRAKE**-class unit will be built to test the usefulness of the equipment.

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**2. Geiger-counter for sea-bottom research.**

Though originally ordered as a 1956-research project, all research work was postponed until 1957 as no Radioactive Isotopes were expected to be available in 1956. Provided they will be available in 1957, it was planned to have very small quantities "thrown into the sea" and to have the Geiger-counter tested. The idea for such a device stemmed from Dr. HUBER of SEISMOGRAPHISCHER DIENST (S.H.D.) (See ref (b)) who had a personal interest in this subject. The research project was among those ordered and paid for by VP-SKK directly for the S.H.D. 60,000 East DM had been approved for 1956 work on the project.

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